

to families with children who suffered from severe mental disabilities at the Kennedy Krieger Institute in Baltimore, Maryland. In addition, she served on the Board of the California Association of Behavior Analysts and also provided consulting to faculty and students of local public schools.

Dr. Vittimberga's life was cut short on February 16, 2004. Her parents, Bruno and Jacklyn Vittimberga, her two sisters Gwenn and Gail, and her brother, Anthony survive her.

She will always be remembered for her contribution to the field of psychology, higher education, and for brilliantly enriching the minds and hearts of her students and colleagues.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JIM
BAUGHMAN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Jim Baughman and thank him for his exceptional contributions to his community and the State of Colorado as a Mesa County Commissioner. A two-term commissioner, Jim will always be remembered as a dedicated public servant and leader of his community. As Jim celebrates his retirement, let it be known that he leaves behind a terrific legacy of commitment to the people of Mesa County and the State of Colorado.

A fifth generation Mesa County native, Jim graduated from Grand Junction High School and attended Mesa State College. He became interested in politics when he attended a Grand Junction City Council meeting, and realized he could make a positive impact on his community. In 1991, he was elected to the City Council where he served until his election as a Mesa County Commissioner in 1996. During his tenure as a County Commissioner, he also served on the Riverfront Commission, the Museum Board, the Community Corrections Board, the Grand Valley Air Quality Board, and Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado. He was Chairman of the Board of Mesa County Commissioners in 1998 and 2003.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Commissioner Jim Baughman before this body of Congress and this nation, and to congratulate him on an outstanding career of public service. His selfless dedication to his community and the people of Colorado as a Mesa County Commissioner is truly remarkable. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors. Thanks for your service.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Sergeant 1st Class Robert Edward Rooney of Nashua, New Hampshire. He bravely served the U.S. Army National Guard's 379th Engi-

neer Company, supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. Sgt. Ferguson made the ultimate sacrifice to protect his country and aid the Iraqi people when he died of injuries he sustained in an accident at the Shuabai Port in Kuwait on September 25, 2003.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Sergeant 1st Class Robert Edward Rooney and our other service men and women who have courageously given their own lives in order to protect and defend the democracy we enjoy in America and to extend the freedoms that come with democracy to those who live in fear and oppression worldwide.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, as we approach Memorial Day, I would like to rise in honor of a courageous young soldier who died September 7, 2003, of injuries suffered August 30 when the truck he was driving in a supply convoy was hit by a civilian vehicle in Iraq. United States Army Specialist Jarrett B. Thompson, was a member of the Lewes, Delaware-based 946th Transportation Company, and sadly was our State's first war casualty from a Reserve or National Guard unit.

At only 27 years of age, Jarrett was a brave young reservist who valiantly served his State and Country. A Dover resident who grew up in Millington, Maryland and played high school football, Jarrett joined the Army in March of 1994. Following a 3-year tour of active duty at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, he continued his commitment to service as a member of the Army Reserve. When he was called to active duty in January 2003, Jarrett dutifully accepted service in the Middle East, where his fellow reservists described him as an energetic, mission-oriented soldier.

In civilian life, Jarrett was a design engineer for Ashland Equipment, Inc. A proud son and devoted husband and father, Jarrett will be deeply missed by his parents, Judy Coleman Thompson and Allen B. Thompson, his wife Kelly, and their sons Conner and Collin. At his funeral in September, Jarrett received a 21-gun salute and the Bronze Star Medal in honor of his noble service to our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is my sincere privilege to honor the life of a proud soldier and heroic representative of the State of Delaware. Army Specialist Jarrett B. Thompson was an honorable defender of liberty, and he deserves our gratitude and respect.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the brave men and women who have served our nation by paying the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom and democracy.

While we should honor all our nation's veterans both living and dead throughout the year, on this particular Memorial Day, we pay tribute to the nation's World War II veterans. On May 29th, the World War II memorial, a fitting tribute to "the Greatest Generation," will be dedicated on the National Mall. Hundreds of thousands of World War II veterans and their families will visit the memorial which is a permanent reminder to us and to future generations that the sacrifices made by the soldiers who served overseas, their families, and the Americans who were on the homefront, saved the world from tyranny. From the beaches of Normandy to the Battle of Midway to the construction of the China-Burma-India Road, these soldiers fought for a cause bigger than themselves.

One of these heroes, Michel Thomas, resides in my congressional district and recently was awarded the Silver Star for his extraordinary courage during World War II. I, along with Senator John McCain (R-AZ), worked with the Department of Defense on Mr. Thomas's behalf so that he finally would receive the honor he so justly deserves.

Michel Thomas was born in Poland to a Jewish family with a thriving textile business. In 1933, he fled Hitler's regime in Germany for France. Thomas last saw his family in 1937. He later learned they were all murdered at Auschwitz.

During the war, he survived two years of concentration and slave labor camps in Vichy France and narrowly escaped deportation to Auschwitz. He joined the Secret Army of the French Resistance, where he was active for two years as a commando leader. In 1943, Thomas was caught by and escaped from Klaus Barbie, the notorious Butcher of Lyon. The next year Thomas served in Combat Intelligence in the 180th Regiment of the U.S. Army 45th Division, The Thunderbirds, and was nominated for the Silver Star for his bravery.

On April 29, 1945, Thomas, an agent in the U.S. Army's Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC), arrived at Dachau concentration camp on the day of liberation. Thomas interrogated and photographed the crematorium workers. Two days later Thomas captured the "Hangman of Dachau," Emil Mahl, who was subsequently convicted of war crimes.

In early May 1945, Thomas tracked a convoy of trucks to a paper mill outside Munich, where he rescued from destruction the Nazi Party's worldwide membership card file of over ten million members. The Nazi leadership had shipped the cards, along with tons of other important Third Reich government documents, to be pulped in the final days of the war. These documents became the heart of the collections of the U.S.-run Berlin Document Center, and were crucial in the Nuremberg war crimes trials and in the denazification of Germany.

In 1946, Thomas helped to capture Gustav Knittel, who was convicted of war crimes for his role in the Malmedy massacre of American POWs at the Battle of the Bulge. I am proud to honor Michel Thomas for his heroism.

On Memorial Day, it is fitting that we honor all the men and women of the Armed Forces who have served their nation throughout history including those who are currently risking their lives around the world, including in Afghanistan and Iraq. I have been to both countries twice and have visited with soldiers from New York and across the country. I especially